IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Katsushi SAITO et al.

Serial No. : Not yet known

Filed : Concurrently herewith

For : FLEXIBLE RESIN BOOT AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING IT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title insert

-- REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a continuation-in-part of application PCT/JP00/05238.--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 9 and 22 as follows:

9. (Amended) The flexible resin boot as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mineral oil is at least one process oil selected from paraffinic oil and naphthenic oil whose aromatic content is from 0 to 10%.

22. (Amended) The method for producing a flexible resin boot as claimed in claim 19, wherein the liquid additive is, after having been heated, added to and mixed with the pellets by stirring them.

The changes in the claims are indicated by brackets and underlining in the Appendix hereto.

REMARKS

This amendment is self-explanatory. It attends to a step in asserting CIP status and corrects improper multiple dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

- 9. (Amended) The flexible resin boot as claimed in [any of claims] claim 1 [to 8], wherein the mineral oil is at least one process oil selected from paraffinic oil and naphthenic oil whose aromatic content is from 0 to 10%.
- 22. (Amended) The method for producing a flexible resin boot as claimed in [any one of claims] claim 19 [to 21], wherein the liquid additive is, after having been heated, added to and mixed with the pellets by stirring them.